

## MINUTES OF THE HOUSE AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Sharon Schwartz at 3:30pm on Tuesday, January 27, 2015, 346-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Basil Dannebohm – Excused

Representative Tom Sloan – Excused

Representative Joe Seiwert – Excused

Committee staff present:

Joanna Wochner, Legislative Research Department

Shirley Jepson, Kansas Legislative Committee Assistant

Natalie Scott, Office of Revisor of Statutes

David Wiese, Office of Revisor of Statutes

Mark Skoglund, Legislative Research Department

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Representative Ron Highland

Dr. Bill Brown, Livestock Commissioner, Department of Agriculture

Travis Lowe, Kansas Cervid Breeders Association

Others in attendance:

[See Attached List](#)

### **Bill introductions**

Representative Ron Highland appeared before the Committee to request the introduction of legislation concerning public water supply storage.

*Representative Hibbard moved to introduce the legislation as requested by Representative Highland. Motion seconded by Representative Trimmer. Motion approved without objection.*

### **Hearing on: HB2029 — Identification of domesticated deer.**

Natalie Scott, Revisor of Statutes, provided an explanation of **HB 2029** ([Attachment 1](#)). Ms. Scott stated that **HB 2029** amends the requirements for identification of domesticated deer.

Dr. Bill Brown, Livestock Commissioner, Department of Agriculture, appeared before the Committee and presented testimony in support of **HB 2029** ([Attachment 2](#)). Dr. Brown noted that current law states that domesticated deer shall be identified through implantation of microchips, ear tags, ear tattoos, ear notches or any other permanent identification on such deer as to identify such deer as domesticated deer. Dr. Brown explained that it is not practical to handle the animals yearly in an attempt to identify them. The Department believes a better approach is to require the animal to be officially identified upon change of ownership, whether the animal is alive or dead at the time such change occurs.

Dr. Brown responded to questions from the Committee.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES of the Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources at 3:30pm on Tuesday, January 27, 2015, 346-S of the Capitol.

Travis Lowe, Kansas Cervid Breeders Association, appeared before the Committee in support of **HB 2029** ([Attachment 3](#)). Mr. Lowe noted that elk and deer are part of the cervid species, which includes all members of the deer family. The changes made in **HB 2029** will simply clarify tagging requirements for the industry. The proposed language will require official identification for any deer or elk that enter or leave a ranch, except when moved directly to a licensed slaughter facility. Mr. Lowe noted that the intent of the legislation is for the animals to have identification when there is a change in possession.

Mr. Lowe responded to questions from the Committee.

There were no other conferees to appear as proponents, neutral or opposition.

The hearing on **HB 2029** was closed.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 pm. The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, January 28, 2015.